

1203-1204

1912 Dates J-BK

Isaac II was Byzantine
Emperor (restored).

England

Death of Arthur while in
John's power.

John lost ANJOU, MAINE,
NORMANDY, TOURAINE and a
part of AQUITAINE.

Henceforth he was restricted
to his English Kingdom.

1203

Chateau Gaillard

Built by King Richard, Coeur de Lion near Rouen in France had 3 lines of defense, consisting of ditches and walls studded with towers.

In 1203 Philip II of France laid siege to the castle, then held by Roger de Tacy, for King John of England. Trenches were dug

to cut off the water supply. Siege engines
were brought up to batter the outermost
wall, which was breached. The attackers
poured through. A party of men climbed
the castle's drains and emerged behind
the 2nd wall, where they were able to
lower the drawbridge. Finally they
started digging under the inner wall
the defenders dug counter-tunnels and
furious battles took place underground.
At last the wall, now thoroughly undermined
by both sides collapsed into the moat.

1203

First capture of Constantinople;
Isaac "restored."

1203-1228

Abbey of Mont St. Michel
In France.

Granite blocks were hauled from miles around and then masons found they were building more abbey than they had mountain for. The result was a fantastic array of buttressing that took 500 yrs to complete. By this time, its protection was no longer needed. Causeway built 1875

The Abbey was frequently assaulted by the English in the Hundred Years war but was never captured

Had to build a Causeway to get to it because it had become an island.

1203

4th Crusade

The Crusaders' fleet arrived
at the Bosphorus in 1203; ALEXIUS III
(Byzantine Emperor) fled. ISAAC II
and ALEXIUS IV were installed as
joint emperors